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No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

CONGRESS TO DISCUSS WARNING

Bars Will Be Let Down in the Senate Friday, and All Opposed to the Wilson Policy Will Air Their Views

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

Washington, Feb. 24.—Though an apparent truce marked the day, both the pro-administration forces and those wanting a modification of President Wilson's policy toward the German armed merchantmen decree seemed making ready for a renewal of their conflict tomorrow.

Having blocked every effort to obtain consideration of a resolution for a warning to citizens not to travel on armed belligerent ships, congressional leaders agreed to let down the bars somewhat tomorrow.

Then the senate will adjourn. Senator Gore, whose efforts to have a warning to citizens not to travel on armed belligerent ships, congressional leaders agreed to let down the bars somewhat tomorrow.

Administration leaders agreed to this concession to the opponents of Wilson, as it is believed the situation can now be controlled regardless of discussion on the floors of congress.

After his defeat Senator Gore prepared a statement, which said in part:

"I do not believe that public opinion would justify a war with Germany on account of the decree. Americans have a technical right to sail on armed merchantmen, but they ought to be willing to forego this right for the public good."

GERMANS SCUTTLE CAPTURED STEAMER

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

London, Feb. 24.—Taking no chance of having their prize, the British steamer Westburn, snatched from them, the German crew in charge of her dashed out to sea today from Santa Cruz in the Canaries, scuttled her and then escaped in boats, according to Santa Cruz dispatches.

Before the vessel was sunk the prisoners aboard her were put safely ashore.

The dispatch said that the German commander scuttled her because the Spanish authorities had hinted they would return the vessel to its British owners if it interned. Fearing that warships off the Canaries would capture the boat if she tried to escape, the commander took the ship to a point within the three-mile limit and sank her. He then returned to Santa Cruz and will probably intern.

Spain would have been forced to return the ship to the owners in case of internment, inasmuch as she has no treaty with Germany which would permit internment.

The Westburn, a 3,500-ton vessel, put into Santa Cruz for repairs, with a small prize crew and more than 200 prisoners from British ships.

The impression here is that the Westburn was captured by the same German raider which recently captured the Appam and sent her into Newport News, Va.

Included in the prisoners were members of the Clan McTavish crew, said to have been captured by the German raider, supposedly the Moewe, at about the time of the Appam capture. Indications are that the same raider captured other vessels whose crews were aboard the Westburn.

COMPROMISE IS SUGGESTED BY ESPEE COUNSEL

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

Washington, Feb. 24.—A possible compromise in the Oregon-California land grant cases was suggested to the house public lands committee today by J. H. Blair, general counsel for the Southern Pacific railroad. His proposition will be submitted upon arrival of the railroad land commissioners next week.

Blair reaffirmed that the railroad is entitled to \$2.50 per acre and the timber on the lands involved, and he claimed that congress can not again vest the title as Senator Chamberlain proposes, though it may take the lands under right of eminent domain and then dispose of them.

KAISER SEES CROWN PRINCE IN ACTION

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

London, Feb. 24.—Under the eyes of the kaiser, the German crown prince has forced his way to within gun range of the fortress city of Verdun.

Berlin claimed today the Teutons had captured towns as far as Samogneux, only six miles from the northern outskirts of the fortress; Paris admitted Samogneux had been stormed, though it claimed the Teuton attack there had been checked.

Berlin told of enormous gains; Paris admitted some.

Losses on both sides have probably mounted to the great total of 60,000 men in the few days since the prince began his onslaught. And still the combat rages along the 25-mile front north of Verdun, with no signs of weakening.

The German official statement claimed the Germans had cleared the way before them in capturing Brabant-sur-Meuse, Haumont, Samogneux, Jood and Herbe, together with the forested district north and northwest of Beaumont.

Paris admitted the loss of Brabant-sur-Meuse and part of the Caures wood, four miles eastward, after announcing yesterday that the French had re-occupied the latter territory.

The Paris communique told of appalling losses on both sides. In an attack on Samogneux, Paris said the Germans were thrown back, while in a new onslaught against Beaumont, seven miles northeast of Verdun, the Germans lost many men.

Both Berlin and Paris indicated that the struggle on the 25-mile front had continued without cessation during the night.

Conceding that the German 42 centimeter guns might reduce Verdun to ruins, critics declared that the Germans must pierce a remarkable system of defensive field positions before they can actually begin a drive toward Paris.

Talk of such a drive is current. The crown prince's efforts are said to be only the preliminaries to a desperate movement on the French capital.

But in his onward march the crown prince has yet to cope with row after row of strongly fortified field positions, protecting Verdun from both the front and rear.

In the earlier assaults several whole corps of Germans were slain. It is predicted here that the German losses will be so great as to defeat the present offensive, though the French, too, have lost heavily.

Seeking Divorce—

Bruce Stephenson has commenced action in the circuit court for the dissolution of the matrimonial bonds between himself and his wife, Mary Stephenson. Cruel and inhuman treatment is the allegation upon which action is brought. The couple was married on Christmas eve, 1910, and two sons, one now four and another two, have been born.

KEEP AMERICANS OFF ARMED MERCHANTMEN

House Leaders to Confer With the President Tonight, and Will Advise Him That the Body Is in Favor of Excluding Citizens of the United States From Belligerent Ships Rather Than to Make War on Germany

Washington, Feb. 24.—Speaker Champ Clark, telephoning the White House late this afternoon, asked to be allowed to bring Majority Leader Kitchen and Chairman Flood of the house foreign committee for a conference with the president as soon as possible.

The conference probably will be held tonight. The trio will advise Wilson that the house is overwhelmingly in favor of excluding Americans from armed ships of the belligerents rather than going to war with Germany or any other nation over the armed merchantman decree.

Washington, Feb. 24.—When congress met today indications were that President Wilson had won the first skirmish in his fight against a proposed congressional warning to Americans to keep off armed belligerent ships.

An effort to adopt such a resolution will be suppressed and there will be no necessity for his appearing before the members with a message on the German-American situation, as administration authorities had predicted. Leaders were so confident that the situation was well in hand that Chairman Stone and Flood of the senate and house foreign committees did not arrange to confer with the president over the warning, as they had planned.

Flood declared the house committee would not report any warning resolution; Stone, having avoided the opportunity for consideration of the warning question through taking a recess instead of adjournment, need only to guard against oratory on the subject.

Ambassador von Bernstorff said today he had not yet received instructions from Berlin as to his course toward the American refusal to concur in the Teuton proclamation of war against armed enemy ships.

Objection by Senator Brandegee prevented Senator Gore from getting a hearing on his bill to prevent Americans from traveling on armed ships. Unanimous consent was necessary to allow Gore to speak.

Despite the fact that a rupture had been prevented, at least temporarily, administration leaders were uneasy.

"I regard this as the most serious matter I have ever had to help face,"

GERARD MAY TAKE THE STUMP IN SUPPORT OF THE WILSON POLICIES

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

Berlin, Feb. 24.—If republicans attack President Wilson's submarine policies in the forthcoming political campaign, American Ambassador Gerard may stump the United States in support of the executive, it was broadly hinted today.

He plans to visit America before the June convention, and if he finds Wilson under fire for his dealings with Germany, he may explain to the country a few things about the submarine controversy about which the people do not know.

Gerard also expects to urge a tariff at least high enough to shut out cheap products, with which he is convinced Europe is preparing to flood the United States after the war. He may also advocate a tariff commission, to which the president already is committed.

In addition to these moves, the envoy may explain why Germany thought at the beginning of the sub-

marine controversy that America was "bluffing" in her demands.

Gerard tried for some weeks to impress German officials with the seriousness of the situation. Meanwhile the then Austrian ambassador, Dumba, informed the Vienna foreign office that Secretary Bryan assured him that America would never take strong action against Germany. In turn, Vienna informed Berlin of this report, and Foreign Secretary von Jagow told Gerard about it.

Then to add to the complications, a man from Illinois, with credentials from Bryan, arrived at Berlin, met many officials and assured them that President Wilson was writing the submarine notes for "home consumption."

Gerard's views as to these moves were given to Colonel House during his visit here as the president's personal envoy.

Gerard is convalescing from his recent accident.

FRENCH TROOPS EVACUATE TOWN OF BRABANT

Paris, Feb. 24.—French troops have evacuated the village of Brabant-sur-Meuse, eight miles north of Verdun, under the heavy attack of the German crown prince in his drive for Verdun, the war office officially admitted today.

The French also lost a part of the Caures' wood, four miles east of Brabant, after reoccupying it yesterday.

Elsewhere, however, said the communique, the Germans were halted. After capturing Brabant, the Germans were halted in storming Samogneux, only six miles from Verdun. Both sides lost heavily.

The German center made a fresh attack on Beaumont, seven miles northeast of Verdun, but was checked, said the communique. There the German sacrifices were especially great.

Infantry attacks marked the night hours along an eight-mile front from Brabant through the Caures' wood to Beaumont, while artillery flashed and roared along a 25-mile front.

French airmen raided Metz and set fire to the gas plant.

LEE FAUT ONCE A RESIDENT HERE

Lee Faut, the aged Chinaman who was brutally murdered at Roseburg Tuesday, was a former resident of Grants Pass, and is remembered by many residents of this city. There is now a belief that the old man was killed by a white man, instead of having been the victim of the tong war. China Sam, a Roseburg Chinaman pioneer, has the following to say of Lee Faut:

"Lee Faut was one of the best known and best liked Chinese residents of southern Oregon. He was recognized as a Christian among the Chinese, and I do not believe he was affiliated with either of the tongs which are now engaged in war at various points on the Pacific coast. Faut and I were friendly and we often talked regarding matters of interest to people of our nationality. I have known Faut for more than 15 years, and in all that time I never heard him mention anything which would lead me to believe he was a member of either tong. He was a man of quiet disposition, an energetic worker, and attended strictly to his own business. Faut lived in Grants Pass for a number of years, and while there accumulated several thousand dollars. He later sold his laundry there and went to Portland, where he remained for some time. While a resident of the latter city Faut lost much of his money through bad speculation. Leaving Portland, Faut again returned to Grants Pass, and later came to Roseburg. He had lived here about three years, and during that time had conducted a laundry on Rose street. Faut was a man of charitable disposition, and gave his funds freely to those in need. Only a few years ago a Chinaman by the name of Hop Lee became afflicted with disease and was compelled to retire from active life. He was without funds and he appealed to Faut for assistance. Faut not only provided him with medical assistance, but paid all funeral expenses following his death."

By Auto From Eugene—

Rae Calvert, who has been attending the state university at Eugene, has returned to Grants Pass, driving down in his Ford auto. He experienced little trouble in coming through except that the road through Pass creek canyon was still pretty soft and he had to add about one man power to the power of the engine in a number of places. From Roseburg to Grants Pass he found the road in good condition and made the run in good time.

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PARIS AIM OF NEW TEUTON DRIVE

Fortresses at Verdun Being Battered by Kaiser's Guns in Gigantic Offensive Toward the French Capital

London, Feb. 24.—The German crown prince's gigantic offensive around Verdun is the beginning of a renewed drive toward Paris, according to Amsterdam advices from Berlin today.

With thousands of guns blasting the defenses, the plan is to wreck the Verdun fortress and then begin a smash towards the French capital, 132 miles away.

Berlin was reported to believe that should Verdun fall it would mark the beginning of the end of the war.

Fully a half million of men are engaged in the struggle in the woods to the north and northeast of the fortress, while extremely fierce artillery and infantry moves are taking place on both banks of the Meuse.

The Amsterdam dispatches told of streams of wounded Germans heading into Germany during the past two days, the fruits of the new campaign. The Teuton losses, as reported by Amsterdam, during the few days of the offensive have been the largest in five months.

A Paris dispatch to the Times, while emphasizing the importance of the conflict, said that the tremendous German losses assured defeat of the Verdun campaign, because a victory would involve too great a sacrifice.

If the gains claimed by Berlin are true, her soldiers are now approaching the outer forts of the town. One more drive equal to the last may allow the German 42 centimeter guns to open upon the fortress of Verdun itself.

The Berlin statement yesterday claimed capture of nearly six and one-half miles in the Verdun region. At many points of which the Germans penetrated to a depth of two miles. The entire front covers about 35 miles, while at last reports the Germans were about 10 miles to the north of Verdun.

HIGH SCHOOL AND PHOENIX TO PLAY

Tomorrow night one of the fastest basketball games of the season will occur at the rink when the high school meets Phoenix. The Phoenix team is said to be very strong and has won a large number of games this year. They are making a tour of the valley and will stop off here for one game.

The regular church game will probably be played before the school game. The Presbyterians meet the Christians to see which one will be delegated to the last place. The church games are now at a red hot stage and each team is determined to win.

As the finances of the game are heavy, a large crowd should be present to witness the games. The high school team is in fine shape now. Mr. Milliken has been sick, and Mr. Westcott has taken charge and has put in some good hard licks. The game will be called early.

To the State Reformatory—

County Judge Gillette went to Salem on No. 14 this morning, having in charge Wm. Mead, who was implicated in the theft of clothing from the residence of A. A. Porter. Mead was committed to the reformatory for a period of one year.